

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. In fact, I have learned that Sinclair's plan to air the anti-Kerry documentary is equivalent to direct electioneering by a corporate media giant -- and is against federal election law.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process should involve assessment of business practices and adherence to regulations and law. Thank you.